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A Congratulatory

# LETTER

To a Certain

*Right Honourable Person,*

UPON HIS

LATE DISAPPOINTMENT.

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*These are not Ills, else would they never fall  
On Heav'n's first Fav'rites, and the Best of Men.*

ADDISON'S CATO.

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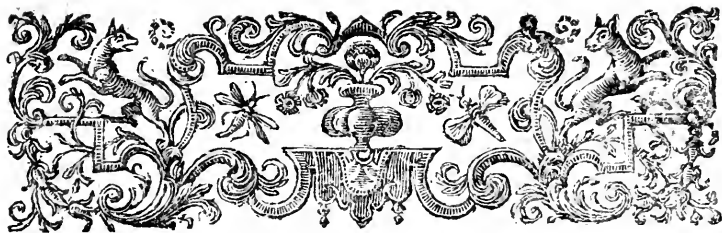


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Printed by and for J. MECHSELL, at the  
*King's-Arms in Fleet-street.*

AC911.0742.7842

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A

## CONGRATULATORY LETTER

To a Certain

*Right Honourable Person.*

MY L-----D,



AT a Time when many of your L-----p's Friends are condoling with you upon your late Disappointment, you will perhaps be surprized at receiving a congratulatory Epistle, upon the same Occasion, from One, who, as you will

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see

see by the Sequel, is much better acquainted with you, than you imagine; and who has as much *real Friendship* for you, as, I believe, any Body *can* have.

You will think too, perhaps, that I begin a little strangely, when I assure you that from the Moment I heard your L——p had solicited his M——y to make you First C——r of the T——y, I sincerely wish'd you might not succeed in your Attempt. And from what I can gather, from the many different Companies I have since been in, I believe your L——p was the only Person in *England* that wish'd to see you in that E——p——t: For all your Friends ought to have fear'd it for your Sake, as all your Enemies did

did



did for that of the Rest of their Fellow Subjects.

And in order to give you as much Joy as possible upon this Occasion, I will first point out to you the many Dangers and Difficulties that would certainly have attended your being First C——r of the T——y, and afterwards shew you the real Advantages that will infallibly accrue to you, from this lucky Defeat of your ill-judg'd Pretension.

To begin then ---- It has in some Degree preserv'd your Reputation, by keeping that Word Sacred which you have so often given of never coming into E——p——t; for, give me Leave to tell you, that many more, besides Myself, have often heard you, seriously in private Com-

pany, and solemnly in the H---e of C—s, declare; *that upon no Account whatever you would accept of a Pl--e.* These Words, which you have often said, these repeated Declarations had great Weight. Had you then been placed in this high O----e, don't you believe some ill-natur'd People might have been apt to have recollected those Words? And might not they, with some Colour of Justice, have reproach'd your L-----p with Breach of Faith, cancel'd Promise, and Want of Truth? Indeed, my L--d, I see it in this Light, and therefore must again congratulate your L-----p that I can defy the most malicious of your Enemies to say you *are* in Place; of which, I assure you, I am sincerely glad.

I have

I have another weighty Reason to offer to you, but I shall not enforce that: I mean the Dangers and Difficulties that attend that important Post, you are so fortunately disappointed of. You, my Lord, know 'em so well, and put the late Minister under so many, that it would be needless. And whatever you may think, believe me, when I say, there are now in Being many Persons of Malice and Envy enough to have resolv'd to do all they cou'd to have render'd your Ministry as troublesome to you as possible. You must be sensible that your *Steady Conduct* has created you some Enemies; I am sure the *Tories* don't approve of your deserting them; and I believe you have no great Reason to hope for the  
 Friend-

Friendship of the *Whigs*. These two Parties might have render'd your ministerial Situation uneasy to you. What might not they have done? No body knows better than Yourself the Deafness and Insolence of a Majority. You might have been sacrific'd in the very first Year of your Administration. The Peerage you so lately and honourably obtained (with such distinguishing Marks of your S——n's Favour in the giving it) might have been tore from you; Mr G——y's Fortune might have reverted to the Publick; and L——d B——d's lawful Heirs have enjoy'd their Family Estate. In short, they might have pursu'd your own Precept; They might have vow'd your Destruction, and accomplish'd it.

But

But out of all this Danger, out of all these Difficulties, has his M——y's most gracious Refusal happily deliver'd you: Surely then your L——p must agree with Me, that this is a Time for Congratulation, and not for Condolance.

But to go on---- I have in some of your L——p's (former) Writings read, that a certain Clofet was often an uneasy Place, in transacting Business, to the late Minister (I mean L--d O——d, for poor L--d W——n was never counted one) and yet it appeared plainly to all the World, about the Time of his Fall, that he had some Degree of his M——r's Favour, that he was not quite indifferent to him.—  
Now, my L--d, you must be conscious, from some Particulars that  
you

you know, and I could mention, that you are not yet a *personal Favourite*, not quite agreeable to his M——y: Nay, it has been imagin'd, that if there's a Man in *England* that he thinks (however unjustly, and to be sure from the Calumny and Detraction of the late M——r) has essentially injur'd him, 'tis YOUR L——P: Pray then let me ask you, whether you don't think it would have been a little unpleasant to have been oblig'd every Day to go into that Closet upon Business, and to ask Favours for Yourself, and your Friends, from a M—— who is no Hypocrite, and naturally warm; who has conceiv'd a thorough Diffidence and Distrust of you; who believes you to be of an inconstant, rapacious

rapacious Temper ; who does not think you his Friend, and can no longer fear you as his Enemy.

In my own Case, I should think it Matter of great Joy to be prevented from entering upon so disagreeable a Scene of Business ; and therefore cannot help once more giving your L——p Joy upon it.

But besides all this, your L——p cannot be ignorant that it has been, and I dare say ever will be, the Fate of all M——rs to be very much abus'd. The defamatory Libels of ancient Times you have read, of modern ones you have wrote : And surely your L——p cannot flatter Yourself so far, as to imagine, That had your late Designs been unfortunately successful, you would have been an Exception

to this General Rule (the only One I know of without an Exception.) Such Flattery must have been vain, and from the natural Propensity of Mankind to abuse, and the few small Specimens you have receiv'd of it since your Entry into the Cabinet Council, you must be convinc'd of it. Besides, the Road to Ministerial Abuse is now made extremely plain, and easy: All Examples of bad Ministers of all Countries are now collected, out of an infinite Number of Volumes, into a very narrow Compass. I have now by me a Book whose Name you may have heard of, call'd the *Craftsman*; in which is contain'd the History and Application of every infamous Statesman, that, I believe, ever existed, and the Index



dex to it is so good, that the poorest Genius may in a Moment find something against any thing a Minister can do. Every one of those Papers were either your Child or your Ward. You Sow'd these Teeth, and they wou'd certainly have produc'd numberless armed Men against you. All the Applications would soon have been made to You, and You wou'd have been astonish'd to have seen the Picture You drew for the worst of Men, become of a sudden extremely like Yourself.

But this also is now prevented by his M——y's kind Interposition, and this real Instance that your Friend C——t has given you of his zealous Attachment to your true Interest.

Having now finish'd that Part, which relates to what your Situation wou'd have been, had you been appointed First C——r of the T——y; I shall proceed to shew you the Happiness of your present Condition in another Light than that in which I fancy you see it.

In the first Place, it will enable you to spend the remaining Part of your Life in a more easy and tranquil Manner than the Hurry of Business permits. You will now have nothing to hinder you from taking care of your Health, and enjoying the Country Air, and Mr O——d's ingenious Conversation on a *Saturday* at *Richmond*: You may now unwanted pass away a whole Summer at any Mortal's Seat  
that

that will be so good to invite you ; and from thence, if 'tis a sporting Country, set up your old Trade again with your Poulterer. As you have luckily no Place, you may with greater Weight solicit the M——rs for other Things You know best what to ask for ; but however I will hint one or two Things that I don't believe you wou'd dislike. What think you of another Grant from the Crown equal to your Last ? Or a certain Promise of ten thousand more Tickets in the next advantageous Lottery than you had in this ? But what is above all these Considerations, you will now have it in your Power to enjoy the Company of your own Family undisturbed, and to taste all the social Pleasures of a private

Life unmolested. You, and your serene C——s will now have full Leisure to attend to your domestick Oeconomy, and the Management of your immense Fortune: A Fortune not got from the Publick; not squeez'd from the hard Hands of Peasants; not follow'd by the Cries and Curses of a plunder'd and undone People: No, my L——d, excepting L——d B——d's Family, J——n B——r's Heirs, and thirty or forty more (for you were forc'd to give the D——s of B——m her Estate back again) I don't know any Body that has lawful Grounds to repine at your L——p's Riches.

You will now continue to appear at Court in the amiable Character of an Independent *Englishman*. And what is still more strange and  
 more

more honourable, in that of an Independent P——r. I am certain that is a Situation that must be agreeable to you ; because I have often been present when you commended it so far, as to be lavish in its Praise. How many Times have I heard you bemoan and scorn all Servitude but that to your Country ! Continue, my L——d, in the Paths you now tread ; persevere in your present Station ; and you will infallibly enjoy all that Reputation you deserve ; and I don't believe there can be a Man found in *England* that can be mean enough to envy you.

Tho' you are still a R--g--t, and of the C——t C——l ; yet as you receive no Pay, you are not in Honour oblig'd to do any Service,

nor to be attach'd to any Minister : You may freely communicate any Secrets to any Body you please. In P——t you need not vote constantly with any one Set of Men ; you may follow your own Inclinations, and by appearing sometimes on one Side, and sometimes on t'other, revenge yourself in this Manner a little for the unjust ill Treatment, and Abuse, you have receiv'd from both Parties.

You must also be sensible, and I am told you have complain'd of the cruel Importunities, and pressing Desires of your Friends (who they are I can't imagine) to make you accept of the *T---* : And I do agree with you that their Behaviour was not right with regard to you, and had their own Interest  
more

more than yours in View. But I do think that after you tell them how Kind his M——y has been to you thro' this whole Affair, 'tis impossible they should ever mention it again to you, at least not soon; for 'twou'd be unreasonable immediately after receiving this essential, and distinguishing Mark of the K——g's Favour, to solicit for another.

I hope you now begin to reap some of the Advantages I intended you by this Letter, and that before you have read thus far of it, you have felt much inward Joy and Satisfaction, by reflecting upon your Antagonist's unfortunate Success.

To continue that Joy and Satisfaction to you, I shall now point out another great Advantage that  
will

will redound to you from your present delightful Situation ; which is, that you are now at Liberty to make whatever Promises you please to whoever you please ; and the Non-performance of 'em cannot be objected to you, as a Breach of Word (the Thing in the World you have always had the greatest Attention to) because you may, *with Truth*, now tell your Dependents, that you have not been able to prevail in your Request ; that the Ministers wou'd not comply with it ; and that, in short, you have not the least Power or Interest at C——t. This I don't doubt they will easily be persuaded of ; this, unless they are blind, they will easily see.

I have



I have now gone through what I at first promis'd your L——p; and these, my L——d, were the Reasons that induc'd me to write you this Congratulatory Epistle, which I don't doubt you will look upon in the Light I intended it. And I must own, from what has happen'd, that I firmly believe your entrusted, and faithful Friend L--d C——t saw this whole Affair in the very Light I have here shew'd it to your L——p. And he wou'd certainly, if he had had Time (or been given to write Letters, which I am told he is not of late) communicated some such Reasons to your L——p, to have justify'd his Behaviour towards you in this Affair, and to have convinc'd you how much you may always depend upon  
his

his Friendship. For else 'tis impossible while he was the only Minister near the K—g, while his M——y was yet enjoying the Triumph of a Victory, to which his L——p was the only *Englishman* whose Councils had contributed, that had he been inclined to have pers'd his M——y to have comply'd with your Request, he could have fail'd of Success. You know his Art, and every Body is sensible of his Power. But, my L--d, he knew your Interest well, and pursued it rightly; and rather than expose you to the infinite Perils into which you was running, he chose to assist your Rival's Pretensions, and back his Demands. But why do I say all this? the Truth and Particulars of which you must  
by

by this Time be as sensible of, as you are of L--d C——t's Friendship, or your own Happiness.

I can't conclude without offering to your L——p another Thought of mine, which, tho' foreign to the present Purpose, yet as it relates to you only, I shall embrace this Opportunity of laying it before you, and so save your L——p and myself the Trouble of another Letter.

I must own I wish, that instead of the present Honours that are bestow'd in *England*, there were some that could be confer'd only upon Desert. The *Romans* had one Sort of Distinction, the same with that I want to see establish'd here. After any glorious Conquest they added a SURNAME to the Hero  
that

that gain'd it; and by fuch Sur-  
 names they were afterwards known  
 and esteem'd. *Caius Martius* was  
 very defervedly call'd *Coriolanus*;  
 and the Two *Scipio's* obtain'd, one  
 the Name of *The Afiatick*, the  
 other that of *The African*. Thefe  
 Denominations carried Veneration  
 and Honour with them, where the  
 Title and the Merit were couch'd  
 under the fame Word. Now it  
 wou'd have pleas'd me, and many  
 others very much, if inftead of  
 your P——ge you had had fome  
 Appellation of this Sort given to  
 you: But fince it was not, I will  
 myfelf propofe one, that muft have  
 been agreeable to you, becaufe it  
 wou'd have been fo to the whole  
 Nation. Your famous Conqueft  
 over

over Sir *R——t W——e*, and your kind Treatment of him afterwards (so much to the Satisfaction of these injured Kingdoms) deserv'd to have you made known to the present Age, and render'd immortal to Posterity by the Name of *P——y the Walpolian*.

But, my L——d, you know there were other Appellations, by which the *Romans* distinguish'd those who they thought had deserv'd well of the Commonwealth: A Title of the Sort I am going to mention might perhaps please you better. *Cassius*, for his Share in the cowardly Murder of *Julius Cæsar*, was at his Death call'd, *The Last of Romans*: I shall improve upon that Appellation, and be ready to own  
upon

upon all Occasions, that you are  
what I really think you, **The**  
**Last of Ben.**

*I am,*

*My L—D,*

*Your L——p's, &c.*

**F I N I S.**









